

CLASS WAR

Issue 7 • June 2025

SOLIDARITY WITH THE MAY DAY 3



US Warplanes Out of Shannon

Organise! IWA wish to extend our solidarity to the Mayday 3 – three activists from Palestine Action Eire, arrested on May 1 in Shannon Airport while attempting to inspect a US military plane. News website The Ditch continues to report on such flights transiting through Irish airspace, with two such incidences occurring over the June Bank Holiday weekend. This despite claims by Tánaiste Simon Harris that the situation in Gaza is intolerable. While Palestine Action Eire said in a statement that this country is “literally fuelling genocide,” Harris, who is also Minister for Foreign Affairs, said it was “expressly prohibited” for civil aircraft to carry munitions through Irish Airspace without an exemption. He went on to state that no such exemptions have been granted in 2023, 2024 or 2025. To Tánaiste Simon Harris, we in Organise! IWA say don’t piss on us and tell us its raining. It would appear that the government would rather continue to pay glib lip service to the people of the country than take any meaningful action against Israel or anger the US in any way.

INSIDE: Trans Rights are Workers Rights; Refugees Welcome; Trade War Uncertainties...

Welcome to the latest edition of Class War, the anarcho-syndicalist bulletin from members of Organise! in the Republic of Ireland.

The name of our bulleting is inspired by Camillo Berneri's newspaper *Guerre de Classe* which was edited by him in Italy and then, in exile, in Spain until his assassination on May 5th 1937. Berneri along with Francesco Barbieri were taken out of their apartment by a dozen plainclothes men with red armbands and police. The corpses of the two Italian anarchists were found riddled with bullets - assassinated by Stalinist counter-revolutionaries during the Spanish Civil War.

Our focus is unashamedly working class. We would

WELCOME TO CLASS WAR!

refute however that there is anything 'reductionist' about asserting this. We see class as the fundamental cleavage in society and the working class, as a whole, as the group which has a real interest in the destruction of capitalist exploitation and oppression and the replacement of states, nations and corporations with a new world based on equality, freedom and libertarian communism.

We do not hold with stereotypical notions of a

white, male industrial working class. We see capitalism as a racialised, and (while patriarchy is older than capitalism) patriarchal system. Nor do we idealise the working class, we are kept in ignorance and fed a diet of misinformation in order to keep us ignorant, brutalised and divided. We are deliberately distracted from our common interests and conned into the mistaken belief that we have interests in common with our 'native' bosses and politicians.

For us the working class consists in the vast majority of humanity and in this majority lies the hope for a social revolution that can save us all from the barbarism and destruction of capitalist greed and war.

NO WAR BUT THE CLASS WAR



On Friday 13th, Israel carried out an attack on Iran, which it claimed was to prevent Iran's ability to build a nuclear weapon. That's even though Israel developed nuclear weapons long ago, although they would rather not admit it.

Both sides have continued to trade fire in the days since Israel's initial attack, with no sign of a peace agreement being reached. While Iran do not currently have a nuclear weapon, a senior US official has told CNN that they are about as close as you can get before building one. However, Iran have repeatedly made claims that their nuclear programme is entirely peaceful, including pointing to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's edict against nuclear weapons. Hans M Kristensen of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute stated "we see a clear trend of growing nuclear arsenals, sharpened nuclear rhetoric and the abandonment of arms control agreements." This means it is entirely plausible that this

current round of aggression from Israel could see Iran committing to building such a weapon in the belief that it will ensure their survival.

Despite Israel's claims, however, the Guardian have reported that "many of their targets are unrelated to the nuclear programme, and some even to Iran's military." Due to the fact that much of Iran's nuclear programming is conducted in underground facilities, there seems to be a consensus that Israel is unable to be effective against Iran without US assistance. While US President Donald Trump had warned Iran of serious retaliation should the US be attacked in any way, reports emerged on 18 June that he was considering intervening on the side of Israel to 'end' the conflict. This is a move that would only serve to escalate matters, and cause further destabilization in the region. In fact, there appears to have been clarification of this fact with Russia's

foreign ministry claiming US involvement would be an "extremely dangerous step."

From mid-April until Israel's initial strike on Friday 13 June, Iran had been in talks with the US to reach a nuclear peace agreement. The best possible outcome to this situation would have been a return to these talks before any further escalation should occur. However the recent announcements from Trump and Netanyahu that Tehran's 17 million inhabitants evacuate was followed by US bombings of nuclear facilities in Iran at Fordo, Natanz and Isfahan leaving little room for hope.

Many who have suffered under and resisted the repressive Iranian regime have warned western anti-war activists against falling into support for the Iranian regime. As the genocide against the population of Gaza continues we must oppose war and the escalation of war without siding with the warmongers who will use the escalating conflict to increase the authoritarianism of their already oppressive regimes.



Government Attempts to Erode Ireland's Neutrality Continue

Back in 2022, Micheál Martin highlighted the possibility of a public referendum on the issue of Ireland's neutrality. Instead, in 2023, the government ran a rather controversial neutrality forum.

Critics, such as President Michael D Higgins saw this as an attempt by government to circumvent public opinion on the issue. The Irish Defence and Security Association immediately advised its clients to maximise their involvement in the forum. According to The Ditch, this group has lobbied the government 16 times since their inception in 2021. In addition, IDSA operations manager Oisín Green is also a director of flight operations for ASL Airlines Ireland, who have been transporting munitions to Israel. Additionally, the Irish government is seeking to remove the 'Triple Lock,' which determines how Irish troops are deployed overseas. Currently, deployment involves UN approval, a government decision, and a vote in the Dáil. This UN approval is key to Ireland's neutrality, as it means troops cannot be deployed militarily-only in a peacekeeping capacity. Removal of the 'Triple Lock' and an increase in arms spending will only serve to bring the country closer to the US military-industrial complex. Ireland already has an economic over-reliance on the US, an over-reliance which is of no benefit to ordinary working people in this country and sees the US influencing government legislation.

No to Israeli War Bonds

While the Irish government is expected to publish draft legislation by the end of June around trade in Israeli goods, there will be no legislation on trade in Israeli services. This significantly watered down Occupied Territories Bill is due to the fact that Ireland is second only to the US in the importation of Israeli services. Additionally, since Britain's departure from the European Union, Israel have relied upon Ireland's Central Bank to regulate their bonds in order that they may be sold within the EU. These bonds are a means for Israel to raise money, and are explicitly advertised with the slogans "Israel is at war" and "stand with Israel." Opposition parties have tabled a number of motions on preventing the sale of these war bonds, each of which has been voted down by government. Most recently, on 12 June, Gabriel Makhoul, governor of the Central Bank appeared before the Dáil to defend the sale of Israeli bonds, stating that "the way the law works, the Central Bank is a creature of law, set up by law, and given certain tasks," and that they are "governed by what is put down in the prospectus regulation." Naturally, the vote on the sale of war bonds that same evening was defeated by government. The Central Bank continue to facilitate the sale of Israeli war bonds, and the Irish government's outright refusal to legislate against it in any way, makes them complicit in an ongoing genocide. In the words of inimitable 80's hardcore thrashers Ripcord, you're all pathetic apologists with blood on your consciences!

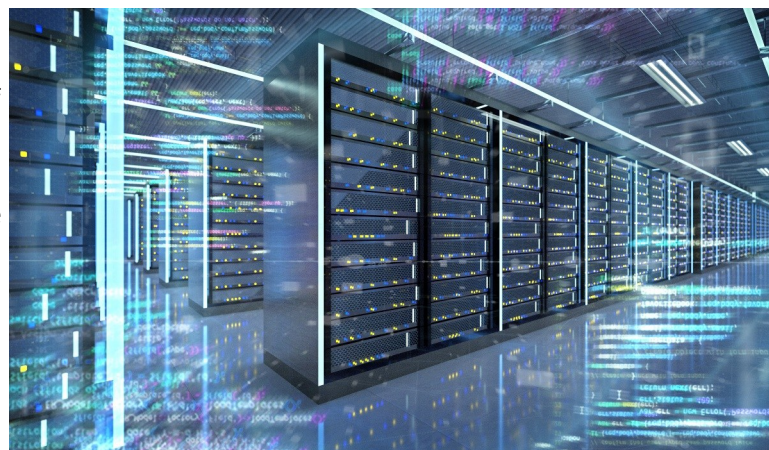
Children's Health Ireland Not Fit For Purpose

The former chair of Children's Health Ireland resigned last April, following a report by HIQA on the use of unlicensed springs in spinal surgeries in Dublin's Temple St Hospital. Shortly after this scandal came to light, The Ditch published a leaked draft report of an investigation into unnecessary hip surgeries which took place between January 2021 and December 2023. Around 1800 children who had hip surgeries will now be offered follow up appointments in order to ascertain whether their surgeries were necessary or not. As if all of this wasn't bad enough, news has also emerged of a consultant who had breached HSE guidelines by referring patients he was seeing publicly to weekend clinics which he was running separately. It is believed this consultant was paid €35800 by the National Treatment Purchase Fund, which aims to cut waiting times by paying private practices to treat patients on public waiting lists. Additionally, an unpublished CHI report has been leaked to media and politicians, which highlights issues of serious concern in how the organisation is being run. RTE reports that "the findings primarily focused on issues related to interpersonal relationships, training programmes, patient management, professional conduct and adherence to standards." While Lucy Nugent, CEO of CHI has been before the Oireachtas Health Committee and issued a number of apologies, Sinn Féin's health spokesperson David Cullinane has said it is frightening what is happening in CHI, and that families feel very let down.

No More Data Centres

Over the last decade, Ireland has seen an increase in the building of data centres. An increased global reliance on data storage and processing has seen Ireland's reputation grow as a hub for digital economic countries. This is allegedly due to Ireland's temperate climate, which means data centres use less energy for cooling. However, the expansion of data centres in Ireland, and particularly in Dublin has raised concerns over potential water shortages.

Already the existing water infrastructure in the Greater Dublin Region is facing capacity deficits. Exacerbating this is that drought periods, which have become more frequent, coincide with peak water usage in data centres. Ireland's water system already leaks roughly 40% of its treated supply, with some data centres using millions of litres of water daily for cooling, putting them on par with consumption in medium-sized towns. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland already struggle to meet their 2030 climate goals. Continuing to prioritise on building energy-intensive facilities which only serve to benefit a minority,





ORGANISE!

Social



The Irish government has consistently stated their commitment to building more social housing, but has missed its targets year on year.

In 2024 alone, this target was missed by almost 20%. As recently as June of this year, Minister for Housing James Browne put a stop to the building of 500 social homes, spread out over Dublin, Kildare, Wicklow and Sligo, due to concerns over the cost of the project. Before Browne's decision to halt the project, €8 million had already been spent on 486 of the homes. This is a flagrant and unnecessary waste of money.

Rory Hearne, author of *Gaffs* and most recently the housing spokesperson for Social Democrats states "the Minister for Housing has become a key blockage in solving the housing crisis, along with the illogical, bizarre actions of his government which only serve to perpetuate the problem." Hearne has also criticised Minister Browne's new measures aimed at alleviating pressure on renters. One such measure has been to extend the rent pressure zones to cover the entire country, claiming that the only way to get rents down is to increase housing supply. Hearne has called this policy exasperating, asking the question "when will rents fall on the basis of this policy, and what institutional investors are going to build housing that is at a lower rent than what they're currently charging? Its not logical."



Build A Working Class Alternative!

Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland affiliated to the International Worker's Association as a 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, particularly those organised on anarcho-syndicalist lines.

We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked over by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, and sick of a greedy bosses and landlords getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy, racism and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier...

The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

In the South of Ireland we currently have members and contacts in Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin, Monaghan, and elsewhere and we are actively building our membership. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at:

<https://organiseanarchistsireland.com>

email: OrganiseASyndIreland@gmail.com